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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Ronald F. Balingit

Application No. 10/783,224

Filed: February 20, 2004

Attorney Docket No.

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DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER
37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(i), filed February 20, 2004, to make the above-identified application special based on the invention materially enhancing the quality of the environment as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section V.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(i) and MPEP § 708.02, Section V: Environmental Quality, must state that special status is sought because the invention materially enhances the quality of the environment by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of basic life-sustaining natural elements. If the disclosure is not clear on its face that the claimed invention materially enhances the quality of the environment by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of one of the basic life-sustaining natural elements, the petition must be accompanied by a statement by the applicant, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office explaining how the materiality standard is met. No fee is required

The present invention relates to particulate collectors, specifically to a smoke collector for removing smoke from the exhaust gas of Diesel engines. However, there is no factual evidence that the invention "materially enhances the quality of the environment of mankind by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of the basis-life sustaining natural elements." The contribution of petitioner's invention, while beneficial to the environment, does not rise to the level intended by the Rule.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail:

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401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

By FAX: (571) 273-8300

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Irvin Dingle at 571-272-3210.

All other inquiries concerning either the examination or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

The application is being forwarded to the Technology Center Art Unit 1724 for action in its regular turn.


Amelia Au
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions